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T. David Reed  
c/o The Procter & Gamble Company  
5299 Spring Grove Avenue  
Cincinnati Ohio 45217-1087

**COPY MAILED**

**JAN 28 2002**

In re Application of  
Ashton et al.  
Application No. 09/700,561  
Filed: 16 November, 2000  
Attorney Docket No. AA315X/KL

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS  
ON PETITION**

This is in response to the petition filed herein on 26 September 2001, under 37 C.F.R. §1.10(c) to accord this application a filing date of 16 November 2000.

37 C.F.R. §1.10(c) requires that the petition be filed **PROMPTLY** after the person becomes aware that the Office has accorded, or will accord, a filing date other than the USPS deposit date. Further, the petition requires a showing that the number of the Express Mail label was placed on the correspondence, and a true copy of the Express Mail label.

Petitioner states that the application was deposited in the USPS Express Mail service on 16 November 2000. In support, the petition is accompanied by a copy of Express Mail receipt No. EL653223757US (the same Express Mail number found on the original application papers located in the official file) showing a "date in" of 16 November 2000.

The petition is *GRANTED*.

This application will be forwarded to the Office of Initial Patent Examination for issuance of a corrected filing receipt reflecting a filing date of 16 November 2000.

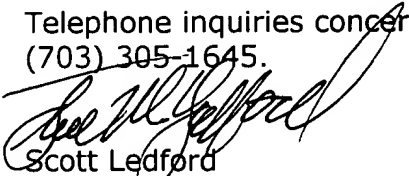
Petitioner's Deposit Account 16-02480 has been credited for \$130.00.

There is no indication in the record that petitioner herein was ever empowered to prosecute the instant application. If petitioner desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney documentation must be submitted. Further, petitioner does not supply a return address and therefore a courtesy copy of this decision cannot be mailed to petitioner. However, all future correspondence will be directed to the address of record until such time as appropriate instructions are received to the contrary.

Applicant: Ashton et al.  
Application Number: 09/700,561

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Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to Susan Ungar, Ph. D. at  
(703) 305-1645.



Scott Ledford  
Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy